

INFORMATION REPORT

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Oil Storage Facilities in the Caspian Sea Region

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2. As far as I know there are oil storage facilities in the following cities of the Caspian Sea region: Astrakhan', Gur'yev, Makhachkala, Baku and Krasnovodsk.

Astrakhar.

2. The largest storage facilities are in Astrakhan'. They all belong to the Main Oil Distribution Agency (Glavneftesbyt) and are located as follows:

- (a) There is an oil storage area near the Shipyard imeni Kirova.

Dark oil products such as lubricants and Diesel oil are stored there in about eight tanks, 15-20 m in diameter and 30 m high.

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- (b) Oil storage area (neftebaza) No 8, which is close to Elling

[REDACTED] This storage is for all oil products and serves as a POL supply point for the ships of Volgatanker, Reydtanker, and all other shipping companies, shore installations, and many plants and factories in Astrakhan'. There are about 10-12 tanks, 50 m in diameter and 50 m high. This area is provided with permanent steam pumps for piping oil from barges into tanks.

- (c) Oil storage area No 5 is close to the Ship Repair Plant imeni Lenina.

[REDACTED] It is used for dark oil products and kerosene. The equipment consists of about 20 tanks, 50 m in diameter and 50 m high, and stationary steam pumps for the transfer of oil. Floating pumps, ie the kind which are installed on barges, are also used when necessary.

- (d) Oil storage area No (?), referred to as "Il'inskaya", located close to the Ship Repair Plant imeni Third International. This storage area belongs to Volgatanker.

[REDACTED] It is used for storage of dark oil products and consists of some 10 tanks, 50 m in diameter and 50 m high. No stationary pumps are available at this area and all oil transfer is done by the pumps on the barges.

- (e) Oil storage area No 6, "Il'inskaya", on the west bank of the Volga River. This is the largest POL storage in Astrakhan'.

[REDACTED] It is used for storage of all POL products, both dark and pale, except gasoline and Tuzmazy crude oil. This installation has about 50 tanks, half of them 50x50 m, the rest about 30x30 m, and stationary pumps.

- (f) Oil storage area No 4 "Il'inskaya" on the east bank of the Volga. It is used exclusively for gasoline storage.

[REDACTED] It is equipped with about 10 tanks, 50x50 m, painted silver. There are the only tanks in Astrakhan' painted silver. There are no stationary pumps available, and only floating pumps are used.

- (g) Oil storage area No (?) referred to as Bertyl' storage.

[REDACTED] It is used only for dark oil products and is equipped with three tanks, each 30x30 m.

2. In addition to these tank storage areas there are several open storages for oil products (Neftyanaya yama) in Astrakhan'. These are actually reservoirs dug in the ground, lined with brick, and five to eight meters deep. Some of them are round, about 100 m in diameter, while others are square and about 100x100 m. They are located as follows:

- (a) "Nozhevyye Yamy" are to the south of storage area No 6. For

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- (b) Several open storages are located close to the village of Bashmakovka [redacted]

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- (c) Two more open storages are located between those near Bashmakovka [See paragraph 2b above] and oil storage No 4 [See paragraph 1f above].

3. All these open storages are used periodically when there is no space available in tanks at Astrakhan'. Two other open storages, located close to the ship repair yard "Imeni Desyatoy Godovshchiny Oktyabr'-skoy Revolyutsii", are no longer used and even the bricks of the facing have been removed for other uses.

Gur'yev

4. There are oil storage facilities for current use in Plant 441, in Gur'yev. I can give no details on these. There is also an oil storage area in the western part of Peshnoy Island which is referred to as oil storage of Plant 441. This installation belongs to "Glavneftesbyt" through its subsidiary, "Vostok-neft". These storage facilities are used mainly for gas oil, and are equipped with some 15 tanks, size 35x35 m. There are several stationary steam pumps for the transfer of oil products from barges into tanks. Total pump capacity is about 200 tons per hour. In addition there are several steam pumps for conveying oil from barges through a 35cm pipe line to Plant 441 in Gur'yev. This pipe line, laid on the bottom of the sea, is 25-30 km long.

Makhachkala

5. In 1942 there was in Makhachkala an oil storage area of considerable capacity. It was located close to the oil harbor in the northern part of the town. At that time there were up to 20 tanks, size 50x50 m. I know that in 1950 the Reydtanker company started carrying the Tuzmazy crude oil to Makhachkala, where it was presumably refined, and it seems probable that the oil storage facilities in Makhachkala have been increased. The storage area was equipped with stationary steam pumps of total capacity of about 400 tons per hour. There are also some local pipe lines in Makhachkala and I even heard rumors that there is a pipe line connecting Makhachkala with Gorznyy.

Baku

6. In 1944 there were large oil storage facilities located all along the shore between Pier No 32 and Pier 50. [See Enclosure A, overlay of "Stadtplan von Baku mit Mil.-Geo. Objekten, Sonderausgabe, Ausgabe Nr. 1, Stand 1932."] I can give no further details on this matter.

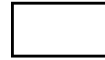
Krasnovodsk

7. [redacted] in 1944 there were two oil storage areas in the vicinity of Krasnovodsk, as follows:
- (a) The first was about eight km south of the city, at Uffra, and was referred to as "Uffrinskaya neftebaza". There were five or six tanks, 35x35 m, used for the storage of dark oil products.
 - (b) The second storage, of the same capacity, was located in the northern part of Krasnovodsk, close to the ship repair plant.

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8. I know that some oil storage facilities in Astrakhan' /see above, paragraph 2a, e and f/ have been expanded since 1950 by the construction of several additional tanks in each of the areas. Special attention was paid to storage area No 4 /see paragraph 2f above/ which has been carefully camouflaged.
9. Almost all the tanks used for oil storage in the Caspian Sea region are made of welded sheet metal. They are provided with gas outlets, measuring gauges, and devices for the removal of water residue.

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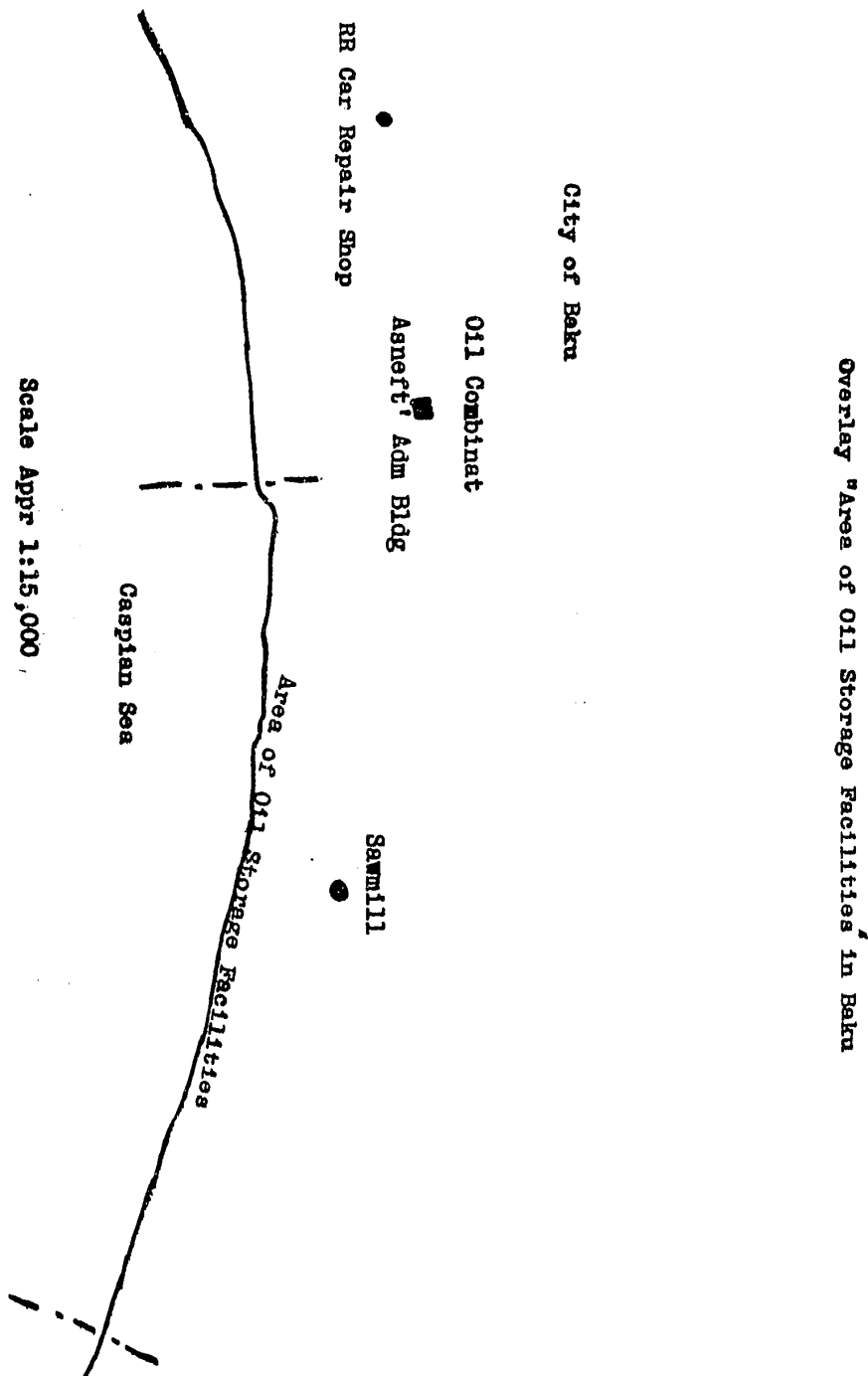
Enclosure (A): Overlay of Baku (from a German war map).

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ENCLOSURE (A)

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